



The Canton of Vaud is starting 2018 in celebratory mood with two anniversaries. The Château de Prangins, Swiss National Museum, is turning twenty and the Blonay-Chamby Railway & Museum, whose steam engines are a delight for rail enthusiasts, is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary. To mark the occasion, these two institutions are organising events and exhibitions throughout the year. Continuing this theme, preparations for the Winegrowers Festival, to be held in 2019, are well under way. In the meantime, wine enthusiasts will be sure not to miss the now traditional "open cellars" in May. From Lavaux to Côtes de l'Orbe, winegrowers will be offering tastings of their products; a chance to enjoy their flavours while exploring the region.

Andreas Banholzer  
CEO, Vaud Tourism Office (Lake Geneva Region)

# Media NEWS

## THE CANTON OF VAUD, A WHOLE WORLD OF FLAVOURS

With its vineyards, premium restaurants and a wide variety of local produce, this is the just the place to delight your taste buds.



with fifty or so stands in the heart of Lausanne. Restaurateurs, caterers, food trucks, artisans and producers will invite visitors, big and small, to try their products during events, tastings and cookery workshops. And that's not forgetting wines, with several fairs offering a chance to sample local specialities or more exotic offerings. From 11<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> April, Morges, about fifteen minutes from Lausanne, will host the second Divinum fair, showcasing exceptional vineyards and offering a whole variety of wines to taste. From 25<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> April, once again on the shores of Lake Geneva, Montreux will host the 23<sup>rd</sup>

The Canton of Vaud is a little paradise for food-lovers. This year, 100 of the 800 restaurants featured in the *Gault&Millau* guide are located here, fifteen of them being new. The guide also nominated Franck Giovannini, of the famed Hôtel de Ville restaurant in Crissier, as 2018 "chef of the year". He is the fourth chef of this well-known establishment to receive such a distinction, while "La table de Mary" in Yverdon-les-Bains has been awarded its first Michelin star. The people of the region are also keen to showcase this taste heritage through popular events. Between April and December, the seventh season of "Lausanne à Table" offers a programme of original events featuring local produce and the latest culinary trends, street food and haute cuisine. Including walks and workshops, surprising menus or unusual venues and flavours from all over, there'll be something for all palates and ages. As part of this, from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May, during Whitsun weekend, the second Miam Festival will bring together the cream of purveyors of taste,

Arvinis exhibition with 18 new exhibitors. This will be an opportunity to discover the wide variety of wines from the region and the whole of Switzerland, and also a chance to appreciate the flavours of wines from Moldavia, the guest of honour this year. The "open cellars" held on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> May will be a chance to meet the producers and get to know more about local wines. Buy a passport for 20 CHF and this will give you access to some 300 cellars in the six wine-making regions of the canton, from Bonvillars to Chablais, from La Côte to Vully via Lavaux and Côtes de l'Orbe. Transport will be provided by free shuttles. Titivate your taste buds and get your legs working at the same with special wine tourism walks with lots of scenery and tastings to enjoy. Use the Vaud:Guide app (free on the app store and Google Play store) to follow the easy routes with questions along the way and the best places to take photos!

[artofliving.lake-geneva-region.ch](http://artofliving.lake-geneva-region.ch)

## THE BLONAY-CHAMBY RAILWAY & MUSEUM IS GOING ALL OUT TO CELEBRATE ITS 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

One of a kind in Switzerland, this museum has a collection of around seventy trains.



The Blonay-Chamby Railway & Museum is a real trip back in time to the days when trains were pulled by steam engines and when they were gently powered by the first electric railcars. These historical trains now run along a 3 km track that has all the features of an alpine line, with a steep gradient, a viaduct, a ledge section and a tunnel. Built in several stages between 1902 and 1911, the original line was operated until the end of the 1960s, after which a group of enthusiasts had the idea to preserve it for a tourist train to run on. To mark this half-century, during the Ascension and Whitsun weekends, five steam engines from the collection will be brought out. Then, in June, an "all out theatre" evening will add a cultural note to these celebrations. Finally, on three weekends in September, the Bernina railway, in the canton of Grisons, will play a starring role with one of its locomotives, which will come to the Riviera for the occasion after ten years of restoration.

[blonay-chamby.ch](http://blonay-chamby.ch)

## VULLIERENS CASTLE, GARDENS AND ART

Overlooking the town of Morges, known for its tulip festival, this 18<sup>th</sup> century castle delights visitors with its three hectares of flower-filled gardens.

Every year, from May to July, some 50,000 flowers create a colourful mosaic in the flowerbeds which are divided into six themed areas. There's also one of the most up-to-date collections of irises in Europe, including nearly 400 different varieties, mingling with tulips, peonies and rhododendrons as well as works of art in the beautiful gardens. This year, the artist and designer Pol Quadens will install 16 stainless steel "stones" on the site, while the giant cats created by the British artist Laura Ford will take over the south terrace. Visitors can enjoy these displays and a spectacular view of the lake via a space that is now open to the public. Two flower shows will take place during the year: from 28<sup>th</sup> April to 17<sup>th</sup> June 2018, every day from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., then from 19<sup>th</sup> June to 28<sup>th</sup> July 2018, Monday to Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. There's also a café offering refreshments and a chance to take in the gardens. Its brunches on Sundays and public holidays are known far and wide.



[jardinesiris.ch](http://jardinesiris.ch)

## Representation in the markets

Vaud Tourism Office (Lake Geneva Region) and its partners participate in dozens of promotional activities throughout the year. Here is a list of these events:

**12 to 21 March 2018** | STE SEA  
| Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, Singapore  
Lake Geneva Region Tourist Office

**4 to 13 April 2018** | Best of Media  
| Montréal, Calgary, Denver, Boulder  
Lake Geneva Region Tourist Office,  
Fondation Genève Tourisme & Congrès,  
Valais Promotions (LGMR)

**11 April 2018** | Promo Event  
TO/Media | Moscow  
Lake Geneva Region Tourist Office,  
Lausanne Tourism, Montreux-Vevvey Tourism,  
Villars-Les Diablerets Tourism

**22 to 25 April 2018** | ATM Arabian  
Travel Market | Dubai  
Lake Geneva Region Tourist Office,  
Montreux-Vevvey Tourism, Lausanne Tourism,  
Royal Plaza, Royal Savoy

**23 to 27 April 2018** | STE Brésil |  
Sao Paulo  
Lake Geneva Region Tourist Office

## News in brief

☆ **The Canton of Vaud, 2017 best destination for auto touring in the Middle East**  
Nominated by the *Condé Nast Traveller* magazine last December, the region stands out for its diverse scenery and rich tourist offering, perfect for discovering by car.  
[media.lake-geneva-region.ch](http://media.lake-geneva-region.ch)

☆ **Re-opening of Bex Salt Mines**  
The Bex Salt Mines, a vast network of tunnels, shafts, stairs and rooms extending over more than 50 km, is re-opening on 24 March with a new-look tour following extensive works.  
[seldesalpes.ch](http://seldesalpes.ch)

☆ **20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Château de Prangins**  
The Swiss National Museum of Château de Prangins is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> year with an exhibition on the printed cotton fabrics that were so popular in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, culminating in a spectacular light show on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018.  
[nationalmuseum.ch](http://nationalmuseum.ch)



## THREE NEW WAYS TO STAY IN THE MONTREUX-RIVIERA REGION

With a guest house in Montreux and two apartment hotels opening their doors in Vevey this spring, travellers have a choice of settings to suit all budgets.

Opened in October 2017, the 1820 Guest House Montreux – 300 metres from the lake and 4 minutes by bus from Chillon Castle – is ideally situated. All the rooms, single and double, have an ensuite bathroom,

transport. With no car park but free bicycles for its guests to use, the 35 luxury suites will all have a kitchen and high speed Wi-Fi.

[montreuxriviera.com](http://montreuxriviera.com)



as do the studios. Its cosy atmosphere and attractive prices make it the perfect place to stay for families or groups of friends. Close by, in Vevey, the apartment hotel Visionapartments will be offering 35 luxury suites from this spring. Aimed at a business and tourist clientele, guests can stay from one night to a year. Finally, in Vevey, the eco apartment hotel Base Vevey will open to the public in March, banking on its proximity to the railway station (200 metres away) to encourage visitors to favour public

## EXPLORE THE CANTON OF VAUD BY BIKE

Its location between lakes and mountains makes it the ideal place to explore on two wheels.



Headquarters of the International Cycling Union (UCI), the region also regularly hosts the Tour de Romandie and the Tour de Suisse. So it's not a cyclists' paradise by accident. Anyone fancying a challenge is spoilt for choice with the three famous mountain passes - Les Mosses, Le Pillon and La Croix – the latter linking Les Diablerets, Château d'Ex, Villars and Gryon. Mountain biking fans will head to the Vallée de Joux for the Grand Risoud route, a 32 km loop including a section through the biggest spruce forest in Europe. They

can also visit Pays d'Enhaut, where the Switzerland Mobility mountain biking route "Pays-d'Enhaut Bike" will take them on a discovery of the Jardin des Monts. The 30-kilometre route links the three picturesque villages of this region: Rossinière, Château-d'Ex and Rougemont. Cyclists who prefer to save their energy so they can concentrate on the scenery will opt for one of the e-bike trails where they can explore the different aspects of Leysin, Les Mosses or La Lécherette.

[bike.lake-geneva-region.ch](http://bike.lake-geneva-region.ch)

# VAUD

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LAUSANNE 2020 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

[www.lausanne2020.com](http://www.lausanne2020.com)

## Events calendar

**19 to 25 March 2018**

Worldwide Festival Leysin  
[worldwidefestival-leysin.com](http://worldwidefestival-leysin.com)

**24 to 25 March 2018**

Freeride Days Les Diablerets (Glacier3000)  
[freeridedays.ch](http://freeridedays.ch)

**30 March to 2 April 2018**

Polymanga Montreux  
[polymanga.com](http://polymanga.com)

**31 March to 6 May 2018**

Tulip Festival Morges  
[fetedelatulipe.ch](http://fetedelatulipe.ch)

**13 to 21 April 2018**

Vision du réel – International Documentary Film Festival Nyon  
[visionsdureel.ch](http://visionsdureel.ch)

**28 to 29 April 2018**

20 kilomètres de Lausanne 20km.ch

**29 April 2018**

Slowup Lake Morat Avenches  
[avenches.ch](http://avenches.ch)

**6 to 9 June 2018**

Caribana Festival Nyon  
[caribana-festival.ch](http://caribana-festival.ch)

**14 to 24 June 2018**

Lavaux Classic Cully – Vevey – Lavaux  
[lavauxclassic.ch](http://lavauxclassic.ch)

**22 to 24 June 2018**

Béjart Ballet Lausanne  
[bejart.ch](http://bejart.ch)

## Event

### JAZZ, POP AND WORLD MUSIC COME TOGETHER AT CULLY JAZZ

The 36<sup>th</sup> Cully Jazz Festival will take place from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> April 2018, in the heart of the Lavaux vineyard terraces.



An eclectic programme awaits music fans in the village of Cully, featuring the trio of the pianist Marie Krüttli, the Blind Boys of Alabama as well as Lisa Simone, daughter of the great Nina Simone. World music acts will include Amadou & Mariam, the musical duo from Mali, and Fatoumata Diawara, with special guest M, or Božo Vrećo, revisiting traditional folk music from Bosnia. Alongside ticketed concerts, young talents and local musicians will be performing for free on side stages often situated in wine cellars. The Lavaux winegrowers and their wines are obviously an integral part of this fun event.

[cullyjazz.ch](http://cullyjazz.ch)

## Special "Winegrowers' Festival"

Fête des 20 Vignerons 19

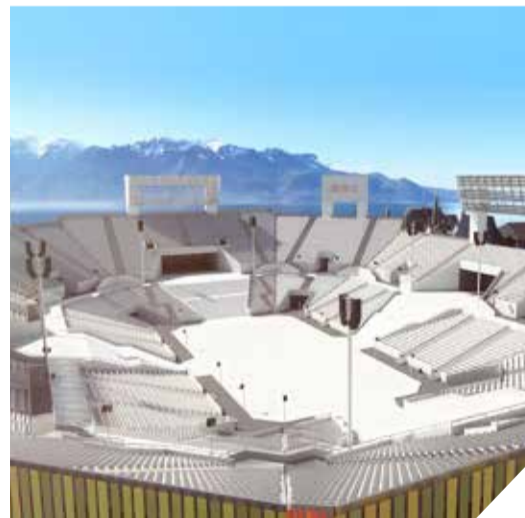
### THE WINEGROWERS FESTIVAL UNVEILS ITS VENUE

The heart of this event honouring the people who work on the vine and its products, it promises to be an impressive and magical space.

In addition to the central stage, which is the size of an Olympic pool (about 1,400 m<sup>2</sup>), there will be four raised stages of about 300 m<sup>2</sup> each, with the stairs linking them doubling their surface area. This arena takes inspiration from both its ancient cousins and the vineyard terraces and will have the elegance of a theatre. The brains behind the Festival wanted it to be "friendly and welcoming, capable of catching the sun during the day and touching the stars at night". A space where magic will rub shoulders with stage machinery, honouring the land and the winegrowers who work on it. The next Winegrowers

Festival will be held between 18<sup>th</sup> July and 11<sup>th</sup> August 2019 in Vevey.

[fetedesvignerons.ch](http://fetedesvignerons.ch)



Picture credits: LT Sébastien Staub • Urs Achermann • Regis Colombo • MontreuxRiviera.com • Ala • Guillaume Mégevand • Maison d'Ailleurs • OTV V. Dubach • Fête des Vignerons 2019 • 2018 Cully Jazz Festival

## Package deals

### EVENTS AND TUNES TO CLOSE THE SEASON IN VILLARS-GRYON



From 30<sup>th</sup> March to 15<sup>th</sup> April, the Ski & Snow Fiesta will be setting the tone in the two resorts of the Vaud Alps.

This event marking the end of the skiing season includes activities for everyone, with a series of skiing competitions (30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> April) as well as a Freestyle Contest (31 March), when enthusiasts of this style will complete the final backflips and tricks of the season. And all this set against a series of concerts held at the Place du Marché in Villars. Even electronic enthusiasts haven't been left out, with the After Season Festival unleashing its tunes on the Villars-sur-Ollon slopes from 30<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April.

[villars-diablerets.ch](http://villars-diablerets.ch)

## Top tip

### THE MAISON D'AILLEURS, UNPICKING CONTEMPORARY MYTHS



This science-fiction museum in Yverdon-les-Bains will be exploring the most famous myths of all until 14<sup>th</sup> October 2018: "Star Wars".



Both exhibition space and documentation centre, the Maison d'Ailleurs takes an interest in subjects at the crossover of popular culture, contemporary art and science. Twice a year, it organises a unique exhibition featuring contemporary artists. Until 14 October 2018, "I am your father" unpicks the most famous of modern epics: George Lucas's "Star Wars" saga. Thirteen international artists are re-engaging with this subject, providing different views of the way fiction has replaced the myths and religions of yesteryear in our western societies.

[ailleurs.ch/expositions](http://ailleurs.ch/expositions)